



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 3RD BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM, 505TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT
82D AIRBORNE DIVISION, A2530 TAYLOR STREET
FORT BRAGG, NC 28310-7213

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Office of the Command Group

Welcome to Fort Bragg and congratulations on your assignment to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82D Airborne Division. Your experience and training will make you an integral member of our brigade and your contribution will enable the continued success of this organization.

The Brigade consists of the 1st Battalion, 505 Parachute Infantry Regiment (1 Panther), 2nd Battalion, 505 Parachute Infantry Regiment (2 Panther), 5-73rd Cavalry Regiment (Recon), 1-319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment (Loyalty), 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion (Gladiators), and 82D Brigade Support Battalion (Gators).

Fayetteville and Fort Bragg are located in a pleasant and scenic area of North Carolina. The post has excellent facilities and wide range of activities for all. Fayetteville is a progressive community with a growing population of approximately 39,457. It is also within easy driving distance of Raleigh and Charlotte, NC.

The installation is in the midst of building new sets of quarters on post which will be completed shortly. If you desire to reside off post with dependents, you must first report to the Housing Referral and Relocation Office, Building 4-2843, Normandy Drive, 6th Floor Soldier Support Center. Their main phone number is (910) 396-2626. When you arrive to Fort Bragg, you must first report to the Fort Bragg Replacement, Building 4-3539, Normandy Drive to begin in-processing.

All Soldiers will get a Newcomers Brief with me within the first month of arriving to the Brigade. Your sponsor will be contacting you soon and will answer any questions or concerns you may have. If your sponsor does not contact you within 30 days of you receiving this letter, please contact the Brigade S1 at (910) 643-2888. For further information, please go to the Fort Bragg website at:

<http://www.bragg.army.mil/Pages/Default.aspx> or <http://www.fortbraggmwr.com/>

To assist you with your transition to Fort Bragg, we have assigned a sponsor from your Battalion. We're prepared to answer any basic questions about the unit or the transition process.

1LT Alexandra L. Teskey
Officer Sponsorship Liaison
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MSG Regina Dilbert
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We care about you and your family and want to ensure the transition to Fort Bragg and into the 3rd Brigade Combat team is a smooth one. We have a family Readiness Support Assistant Mrs. Charlene McIntosh who is prepared to assist your family into integrating into the Family Readiness Group and answering any questions about family assistance and transitioning.

Mrs. Charlene McIntosh
(910) 366-4823
charlene.mcintosh@conus.army.mil

We sincerely wish you a safe journey and again, Welcome to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82D Airborne Division. We expect that you will find your tour of duty here both professionally and personally rewarding and we look forward to meeting you upon your safe arrival and integration into the “Panther” Brigade.

//Original Signed//
BRIAN T. SEVERINO
CSM, USA
Command Sergeant Major

//Original Signed//
MICHAEL R. FENZEL
COL, IN
Commanding

Enclosures

1. Long Range Training Calendar
2. 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment History
3. Paratroopers Uniform Items
4. Division Pamphlet 600-2 (The All American Standard)
5. Jumpmaster Pre-test study guide
6. Fort Bragg Map
7. Miscellaneous ACS brochures



505th Parachute Infantry Regiment

Unit History Study Guide

As of 20 March 2008





Study Guide

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HISTORY OF THE 505TH PIR AND 3D BRIGADE

On 6 July 1942, at Fort Benning, Georgia, the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment was activated under the Airborne Command, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. On 4 February 1943, the Regiment was assigned to the 82d Airborne Division. The Regiment arrived at Fort Bragg, North Carolina on 12 February 1943.

During World War II, the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment participated in seven major campaigns and four regimental airborne assaults. On 28 April 1943, the 505th left the New York Port of Embarkation for Casablanca, North Africa where the regiment underwent six weeks of grueling training. The Regiment then flew to Kairouan, Tunisia where final preparations were conducted for the 505th's entry into battle. On 9 July 1943, just over a year after its activation, the 505th made the first regimental size combat parachute attack as it landed behind enemy lines at Gela, Sicily. In its first trial-by-fire, the 505th, though outmanned and outgunned, used raw courage and fighting spirit to block the German Herman Goering Panzer Division and to save the beachhead and the Allied landings. With Sicily secure, the Allies continued their attack on the Axis powers with landings on the Italian mainland. The 505th conducted its second combat parachute attack on 14 September 1943 into Salerno, Italy becoming the first unit to enter Naples. During the early months of 1944, the Division was moved to England as the allies were preparing for the assault on Western Europe. The largest combined military operation in history, "D-Day," was to be spearheaded by the 82d and 101st Airborne Divisions. 6 June 1944, at 0300 hours, found the paratroopers of the 505th landing on the Normandy Peninsula. It was one of the first airborne units to hit the ground and liberated the first town in France, St. Mere-Eglise. The paratroopers jumped prior to the actual start of the invasion at "H-Hour." Because of that tradition, of being first into the fight, the 505th Regimental Motto is "H-MINUS." For their performance in the invasion, the 505th was awarded the Presidential unit citation, the unit equivalent of the Medal of Honor awarded to individual soldiers. In the words of author Clay Blair, the paratroopers emerged from Normandy with the reputation of being a pack of jackals; the toughest, most resourceful and bloodthirsty in Europe. On 17 September 1944, as part of "Operation Market Garden," the 505th made its fourth combat jump at Groesbeck, Holland; the largest airborne assault in history. During that fierce combat, two lightly armed platoons, at most 80 men, were surrounded by an entire German Infantry Battalion supported by tanks. The paratroopers fought back three savage German assaults and held their ground until relieved. The 505th received a second Presidential unit citation. Later that winter the airborne troopers were thrown into the breach of the famous "Battle of the Bulge." Despite a lack of cold weather equipment, once again airborne spirit, courage, and hard-nosed determination won the day as the 505th withstood the bleak winter and stopped the fanatic German attacks cold. For its valor in the seven major campaigns the 505th was awarded two Distinguished Unit Citations and three foreign decorations: the French Fourragere, Netherlands Military Order of William, and Belgium Fourragere.

After World War II, the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment returned to Fort Bragg, North Carolina. In June 1957, the Regiment was reorganized and redesignated as the 505th Infantry and relieved from assignment to the 82d Airborne Division. On 25 May 1964, the 505th Infantry was reassigned and redesignated as the 3d Brigade, 82d Airborne Division. The Brigade was organized into three battalions, 1-505, 2-505, and 1-508.

At 0200 hours, on 30 April 1965, the 3d Brigade was alerted for combat as part of "Operation Power Pack," the defense of the Dominican Republic against communist insurgents. Within 18 hours, the first C-130 landed at San Isidro Airfield, Dominican Republic. After two months of bitter fighting, the 3d Brigade returned to Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

On 24 July 1967, the 3d Brigade deployed to Detroit, Michigan to assist local authorities in quelling a civil disturbance. Less than a year later, on 12 February 1968, the 3d Brigade was alerted for deployment to the Republic of Vietnam in response to the Tet Offensive. After thirteen months, the Brigade had helped secure the region south of the DMZ and redeployed to Fort Bragg, North Carolina in March 1969, the only Brigade of the 82d Airborne Division to participate in the Vietnam conflict.

The 3d Brigade deployed to Washington, D.C. in May 1971 to help local and federal officials in their efforts to keep demonstrators from disrupting the daily operation of the Government. Nine years later in August 1980, the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 505th Infantry was alerted and deployed to conduct civil disturbance duty at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania during the Cuban refugee internment.

The 3d Brigade deployed the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 505th Infantry to the Middle East in March 1982 as the first United States member of the MultiNational Force and Observers (MFO) rotation in the Sinai. 1-505 returned home in August 1982 from the most important peace-keeping mission in history.

In October 1983, the 3d Brigade deployed to the country of Grenada to evacuate US citizens and restore free government during Operation URGENT FURY. The Brigade remained in Grenada for the duration of the campaign serving first in combat, then in peace-keeping operations until December 1983.

On 3 October 1986, the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment (PIR) was reactivated under the auspices of the 3d Bde with the 1st and 2d Battalion 505th PIR and the 1st Bn 508th PIR redesignated as the 3d Bn 505th PIR.

In December 1989, Company A, 3rd Battalion, 505th PIR participated in Operation "JUST CAUSE" and assisted in freeing the country Panama from the dictator Manuel Noriega. Their efforts assisted the country of Panama to pursue its democratic destiny.

In August 1990, the 505th was airlifted to Saudi Arabia as a part of Operation "DESERT SHIELD." The 82d Airborne Division spearheaded a coalition of multinational military forces aimed at deterring further IRAQI aggression and expansion into Saudi Arabia and the enforcement of sanctions against IRAQ. The ground phase of Operation DESERT STORM began 25 February 1991 and saw the Brigade move north to conduct combat operations through the Euphrates River Valley. After eight months, the Brigade had helped secure U.S. objectives and redeployed to Fort Bragg in April 1991.

In 1999, C/3-505 deployed to Saudi Arabia for Operation "DESERT FOCUS" from January to June, A/3-505 deployed to Kuwait for Operation "SOUTHERN WATCH" from February to June, and B/2-505 deployed to Haiti for Operation "UPHOLD DEMOCRACY" from March to July. Additionally, TF 2-505 (with B/3-505) deployed to Albania for Operation "NOBLE ANVIL" from April to June with a follow-on mission to Kosovo for Operation "JOINT GUARDIAN" from June to September.

Most recently, Paratroopers of the 505th have made five separate deployments since 2001 in support of the War on Terrorism – three to Iraq and two to Afghanistan. Task forces from the regiment have spent more than 41 months in the Middle East. Because of their success in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom and their proven ability to rapidly deploy on short notice, the regiment and the remainder units of the 82nd Airborne Division have been dubbed "America's Strategic Response Force."

Their most recent rapid deployment was in September 2005 to support Hurricane Katrina relief efforts in New Orleans. Within six hours of notification, the first wave of Paratroopers was patrolling the flooded streets of downtown New Orleans and the French Quarter making assessments of the damage. The task force evacuated more than 5,000 people and rescued nearly 1,000 trapped and stranded from their flooded homes. Paratroopers also assisted in the refurbishment of key facilities throughout the city, such as the Saint Louis Cathedral, the Superdome, the historic French Quarter, medical centers, housing projects, and schools. Paratroopers continuously conducted presence patrols to ensure the city's safety from looters and crime. The task force redeployed four weeks later.

Today, in support of the Army's transformation from division task forces into modularized brigade-centric combat teams, the regiment consists of 3,500 Paratroopers from six separate battalions – the 1st Battalion, 505th PIR; 2nd Battalion, 505th PIR; 5th Squadron, 73rd Cavalry Regiment; 1st Battalion, 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment; 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion; and the 82nd Brigade Support Battalion. The majority of the BCT's Paratroopers – ranging all technical and tactical skills – are jump qualified and maintains airborne proficiency by conducting at least one quarterly exit from an aircraft while in flight.

Most recently all six battalions completed a successful 15 month-long deployment in support of OIF in the Salah ad Din and Diyala provinces. Their mission was to conduct combined counter-insurgency operations to secure Salah ad Din with emphasis on developing

Iraqi Police and population control to achieve Provincial Iraqi Control. The Panthers were the first Brigade in the 82nd Airborne Division to deploy as a Brigade Combat Team.

The 505th Regiment has a brief history compared with older infantry units, but none has a more glorious record. Over the relatively short 58 years of its history, the tough skilled paratroopers have struck fear in their enemies and seen their Regiment decorated with two Presidential Unit Citations, three French Croix de Guerre, the Netherlands Orange Lanyard, the Military Order of William, the Belgian Fourragere and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.

As always, the Panther Brigade stands ready to respond to any crisis, anywhere, anytime.

HISTORY OF THE 1ST BATTALION 319TH FIELD ARTILLERY REGIMENT

The 1st Battalion 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment has a long and distinguished history as part of the All American Division. 1st Battalion can trace its lineage to Battery A, 319th Field Artillery that supported the 82nd Division in World War I. The battalion's colors proudly carry the battle streamers from the St. Mihiel, Muesse-Argonne, and the Lorraine campaigns.

At the end of hostilities in Europe in 1918, the 319th Field Artillery returned home and was inactivated until March 25, 1942 when the All Americans were called upon once again. In August 1942, the 319th Field Artillery was designated a Glider Field Artillery Battalion and organized into the 82nd Airborne Division. Landing amphibiously in Italy in 1943, the battalion provided fire support in the fight against the Germans at the Volturno River. The battalion's performance and courage at Chiunzi Pass was recognized with the awarding of the first Presidential Unit Citation.

On June 7, 1944, the 319th glided into Normandy as part of the D-Day Invasion, landing two miles northeast of St. Mere Eglise. The battalion assembled its 75mm pack howitzers and fought courageously in support of the 82nd Airborne Division elements holding a crossroads at St. Mere Eglise. Because of the battalion's success in the Normandy landing, and the courage of its troopers throughout the following days of combat, the 319th Glider FA Battalion received its second Presidential Unit Citation.

Three months later, the Battalion was sent in gliders to Holland for Operation Market Garden, landing near Nijmegen. Upon landing, the 319th gunners were involved in fierce fighting with German counter attacking out of the Reichswald. Their fires helped the 82nd Airborne Division keep control of the bridgehead over the Waal River. After Market Garden, the 319th Field Artillery Battalion supported the All Americas in the Battle of the Bulge, the fight to breach the Siegfried Line, and Rhine River crossing operations. Campaign Battle streamers from World War II include: Naples Foggia, Alsace, Rhineland and Central Europe. After the fighting had ended, the Division was ordered to perform patrols for in the American sector of Berlin, where it earned the nickname "America's Guard of Honor." The Division and 319th Glider FA Battalion eventually returned to Fort Bragg to continue its service.

In 1964 the 319th split to form three new battalions and Alpha Battery became 1st Battalion (Airborne), 319th Field Artillery. Soon after, in May 1965, 1st Battalion deployed with

other elements of the 82nd to the Dominican Republic in Operation Power Pack. The battalion helped restore order in the troubled region. In October 1983, the headquarters and two firing batteries deployed with the 3rd BDE to Grenada and saw action in Operation Urgent Fury. The battalion provided fire support to Division elements liberating the island from communist control.

In August 1990, 1-319th deployed with the 82nd ABN DIV to Saudi Arabia in Operation Desert Shield and helped to deter further Iraqi aggression after the invasion of Kuwait. The battalion conducted many missions prior to the outbreak of hostilities by defending Saudi Arabia and supporting 505th Regiment's anti-terrorist mission in the Saudi capitol of Riyadh. When the ground offensive for Operation Desert Storm commenced on February 24, 1991, the battalion provided direct fire support to 3rd Brigade as it advanced over 300 miles to its final position in Iraq near the town of Nasiriyah in the Euphrates River Valley. On 1 April 1991, the Battalion redeployed to Fort Bragg and stood ready for its next mission.

In August 1994 the battalion's fire supporters were called on once again to support an airborne assault into Haiti as part of Operation Restore Democracy. However, once the assault aircraft were airborne an agreement was reached allowing a peaceful settlement to the crisis in Haiti and the paratroopers returned to Fort Bragg.

On April 19, 1999 elements of Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment deployed with the vanguard of Task Force 2-505 to Tirane-Rinas airport, Albania, and formed part of Task Force Hawk to conduct a show of force and prepare for combat to support NATO control of Yugoslavia. The remainder of the battery closed by April 30th, and the battery conducted security, recovery, and artillery raid missions in preparation for combat operations as part of Operation Noble Anvil. On 10 June, 1999, Charlie Battery moved with Task Force 2-505 as the first US forces into Kosovo following NATO's air war against Serbia. In Kosovo, Charlie Battery helped establish Camp Bondsteel and monitored the withdrawal of Serbian forces from Kosovo in Operation Joint Guardian. Charlie Battery redeployed with Task Force 2-505 in September, 1999.

In June 2002, 240 members of the Loyalty Battalion deployed in support of the 505th Regimental Combat Team with one 105mm Howitzer battery and two 120mm (Provisional) Mortar Batteries to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom to fight the global war on terrorism. Their efforts to combat the Taliban and Al Qaeda were successful and they returned home safely in January of 2003.

The 1st Battalion 319th AFAR was once again deployed in August of 2003 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The battalion deployed with the 3rd Brigade Combat Team to the southern cities of Mahmudiyah and Iskandariyah. The battalion provided lethal fires in support of both US and Iraqi forces. The battalion's efforts reduced insurgent activity in the area and provided security to a once volatile area in the country of Iraq. The battalion redeployed after eight months of combat operations in April 2004.

In September of 2005, the Loyalty Battalion deployed with the 3rd BCT to New Orleans, Louisiana, in support of Operation All American Assist. Paratroopers from the Loyalty Battalion aided and assisted displaced citizens, and helped federal agencies rebuild the infrastructure and regain order of the New Orleans area.

The 1st Battalion 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment was called to combat service again in August of 2006 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom VI-VIII. Originally scheduled as a twelve month deployment, the Paratroopers of the 1-319th would see their tour extended to eighteen months. The Loyalty Battalion operated in the northern Iraqi city of Tikrit. The Paratroopers of the Loyalty Battalion provided local national Iraq's with security and humanitarian assistance. The Battalion also provided support for Iraqi Security Forces in order to restore order to the area. Bravo Battery was sent further north to Tal Afar in support of 3/4 CAV, 25th ID in order to deter Anti Iraqi Forces the ability to operate freely in the battle space. The Battalion's efforts to combat and defeat the Al Qaeda in Iraq and Anti Iraqi Forces were successful, and they returned back to Fort Bragg in late October 2007.

History of the 82nd BSB

The 82nd Support Battalion was activated on 25 May 1968 with an authorized strength of 372 personnel organized into four companies. The mission of the 82nd Support Battalion was to provide administrative, finance, legal, medical, maintenance, and supply services to the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment in the Republic of Vietnam.

The Battalion's Forward Support Element, stationed at Tan Son Nhut Airfield in Saigon, provided direct support maintenance, health service support, and all classes of supply except Class V and VI to the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment. The Headquarters Company conducted replacement operations to include training nearly 5,000 incoming Regimental personnel during a nine month period. Additionally, Bravo Company (Medical) deployed and supported two operational elements stationed at both Phu Loi and Tan Son Nhut Airfield. The Charlie Company (Maintenance and Supply) provided direct support maintenance, supply, and transportation from both locations.

The 82nd Support Battalion completed an in-country stand down on 20 November 1969, and was inactivated at Fort Bragg on 12 December 1969.

The 82nd Forward Support Battalion was officially activated on 16 April 1994, and assigned the mission of providing continuous Combat Service and Combat Health Support to the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

The 82nd Forward Support Battalion deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in July 2002. The Battalion provided support to over 5,000 members of Coalition forces on Kandahar Airfield and various strategic Forward Operating Bases. The Battalion redeployed to Fort Bragg in January 2003.

The Battalion, as part of Task Force Panther, was placed on alert for deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom on 24 July 2003. Final deployment orders arrived on 01 August 2003, and four days later Task Force Panther once again led the way to combat for Task Force All American.

By 15 August 2003, the Battalion successfully deployed entirely by air and had quickly established a Forward Logistics Element at Baghdad International Airport. The Battalion was responsible for continuously supplying all classes of supply, maintenance and medical support to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team. From there, they moved to Al Fallujah, Iraq where they provided support to both the BCT and numerous other units. The Battalion redeployed in April 2004.

Hurricane Katrina made landfall on the Gulf Coast on 29 August 2005. Five days later the 82nd Forward Support Battalion deployed to render assistance. The Paratroopers of the Battalion worked across the complete spectrum of relief operations; from running the All American Evacuation Site and helping citizens depart the city, providing maintenance and supplies to federal agencies such as FEMA, working to re-open the first hospital in the Orleans Parish, and assisting in the cleaning of Troopers and equipment exposed to potential toxins in the flood waters. The support that the All American Gators provided the Crescent City was unmatched and truly assisted New Orleans on her road to recovery.

The Battalion was re-flagged the 82nd Brigade Support Battalion on 06 January 2006, and was officially assigned to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team adding five new companies to the ranks and increasing personnel strength from 243 Paratroopers to over 870.

The 82nd Brigade Support Battalion deployed on 08 August 2006 to the Salah ad Din Province of Northern Iraq. The Battalion was based at COB Speicher, outside Tikrit, Iraq, and conducted sustainment operations throughout AO Panther supporting the BCT's combat operations. Fifteen months after deploying, the Battalion returned to Fort Bragg in November 2007.

History of the 73rd Cavalry Regiment:

The 73rd Armor Regiment began as Company C, 76th Tank Battalion on January 13, 1941. After a series of reorganizations, the Regiment was re-designated as Company C, 73rd Tank Battalion and inactivated in 1957. ON February 15, 1984 the 73rd was reactivated and assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, NC as the 3rd Battalion (Airborne) 73rd Armor Regiment. The 73rd "thunder" has been heard in North Africa, Italy, and Europe during WWII. The unit fought at Pusan, Inchon, Seoul and the Chorwan valley during the Korean War. Recently, the 73rd deployed to Panama during Operation Just Cause, Saudi Arabia during Desert Shield and Iraq during Desert Storm.

The Regimental colors carry 26 battle streamers for combat operations from World War II to Desert Storm. During that period, tow Congressional Medals of Honor were awarded to Paratroopers of the 73rd Regiment, as well as 38 Silver Stars, 75 Bronze Stars and over 1000 Purple Hearts. Additionally, the Regiment made armor history in 1989 as the only armor unit to parachute drop tanks into combat during Operation Just Cause. Having served the 82nd Airborne Division since 1984, the 3rd Battalion (Airborne) 73rd Armor Regiment was deactivated form service in July of 1997.

The 73rd Regiment was called into action again in 2006 when the Army modular transformation identified the need for Light Brigade Combat Teams to have a Reconnaissance, Surveillance, and Target Acquisition Squadron (RSTA). The reformed 73rd Cavalry Regiment consisted of the 3rd, 1st, 5th, and 4th RSTA Squadrons, respectively assigned to the four Brigade Combat Teams of the 82nd Airborne Division. The 5th Squadron, 73rd Cavalry Regiment (Airborne Reconnaissance) was hand-picked from the ranks of the 3rd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment and officially activated in January 2006 as the first Airborne RSTA Squadron in the 82nd Airborne Division. The 400 Paratroopers of the "Headhunters" deployed in August 2006 to the Diyala province, Iraq, in support Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Upon entering the Diyala province, TF 5-73 intentionally bypassed all Forward Operating Bases and immediately established desert patrol bases in an area of operations that has been without Coalition Forces for almost two years. Over the next three months, the Squadron conducted a series of decentralized, long-duration reconnaissance operations within a battle space of over 280,000 square kilometers. Aggressive pursuit of the enemy identified and isolated the core area of resistance in an area known as Turki village. In preparation for a deliberate clearance of the Turki area the Squadron Commander, LTC Andrew Poppas, conducted an aerial reconnaissance. During this leader's reconnaissance, the group identified what appeared to be a collection of underground bunkers. LTC Poppas immediately landed the aircraft and searched the site, discovering buried storage containers containing multiple anti-aircraft weapons and thousands of rounds, mortars, and rockets. Over the next seven hours, the 12-man reconnaissance element held the site and repelled multiple enemy probes until the rest of the Squadron enveloped the entire Turki area in a deliberate, large scale reconnaissance. Within 24 hours, every Troop was deeply engaged in heavy combat. The battle for Turki had begun. What began as a reconnaissance operation turned into the largest battle Iraq had seen in three years. For 36 straight hours, the Paratroopers faced a well equipped and well trained army of insurgents in urban combat and brutal trench fighting within the vast canal systems of the Turki area. When the battle ended, the Squadron had killed and captured over 100 insurgents and destroyed five large caches. The battle now known as Turki Bowl resulted in the Squadron's first two deaths and five friendly casualties. CPT Stephen Dobbins was awarded the Silver Star for valorously leading his Troop, while wounded, and defeating multiple enemy attacks on his Troop's position. 1SG John Coomer was awarded the Silver Star for valorous actions during a heavy firefight which resulted in defeating an entrenched enemy fighting position and saving countless Paratroopers. Four Paratroopers were awarded the Bronze Star with valor and 16 Paratroopers were awarded the Army Commendation Medal with valor.

For 30 days following Turki Bowl, 5-73 conducted pursuit and shaping operations to hunt down and isolate the remnants of the insurgents in Turki village in preparation for a squadron (+) attack intended to completely cripple the enemy. These operations included the two largest air assaults conducted by the 82nd Airborne Division during Operation Iraqi Freedom. On 4 January 2007, Operation Turki Bowl II began with a series of seven air assaults that completely isolated the Turki area. A combination of integrated direct fire, artillery, B-1 Bombers, Army attack aviation, and Air Force close air support resulted in almost 100 enemy KIA during the opening engagements of the attack. Following this debilitating attack by fire, the Squadron conducted a deliberate clearance of over 270 square miles of canals and 22 villages. The two week operation resulted in the complete destruction of the enemy. The operation resulted in 14 valor awards and 72 other achievement awards. In three months, 5-73 had decimated an enemy that had spent over two years training and equipping itself into the most disciplined insurgent force seen since the initial invasion of Iraq.

Following the completion of the Turki battles, 5-73 was tasked with securing the Diyala River Valley near the city of Baqubah. The DRV, a series of villages surrounded by thick palm groves, had been identified as another large scale safe-haven for Al-Qaeda in Iraq. The Squadron (-), renamed TF 300, moved into the DRV on February 26 2007 and began a campaign to destroy AQIZ forces. The goal of the campaign was to regain control of key locations within

the DRV in order to deny the enemy movement and isolate them for a final squadron attack. The Squadron began with Operation Troy, a synchronized air assault and ground clearance that regained control of the town of As Sadah, which allowed TF-300 to secure the main route between the DRV and the Brigade forces at FOB Warhorse. The operation gave TF-300 a foothold in the DRV and removed the tier-one IED site that had isolated the DRV from FOB Warhorse. SPC Andrew Harriman was awarded the Silver Star for valorous actions as a combat medic which resulted in saving the life of a fellow Paratrooper during the clearance of As Sadah.

The Squadron's next step in the campaign plan was Operation Minotaur. The division main effort had become the clearance of the city of Baqubah, and TF-300 conducted a deliberate attack on the towns of Qubbah and Zaganiyah in order to disrupt the enemy and prevent AQIZ in the DRV from consolidating in Baqubah before the Division's clearance operations. With four full companies of Paratroopers and eight HLZs, Operation Minotaur was a larger air package than Operation Turki Bowl II. The clearance of Qubah and Zaganiyah consisted of eight days of continuous combat in over 2000 buildings and 18 square kilometers of palm groves. The ground clearance, indirect fires, and CAS strikes resulted in the killing and capturing of over 60 AQIZ fighters and the destruction of caches containing hundreds of mortar rounds, grenades and machine gun ammunitions. The battle resulted in four US KIA, 13 US WIA, and 2 awards for valor. TF-300 had now solidified its control on the DRV's lines of communication and supply, and had isolated the AQIZ force. The Squadron had established troop patrol bases in the key towns and now dominated the terrain. The enemy did not give up, however. While the Division was focused on clearing Baqubah, the AQIZ forces focused their efforts on conducting catastrophic suicide attacks against the 5-73 patrol bases. SFC Benjamin Saban was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for sacrificing his life in actions that saved countless Paratroopers during a suicide attack on a troop patrol base. SSG William Moore was awarded the Silver Star for sacrificing his life in order to save six members of his platoon during a massive suicide and direct fire attack on a troop patrol base. The heroism of the TF-300 Paratrooper allowed 5-73 to persevere during these catastrophic attacks and defeat the enemy.

Once the clearance of Baqubah was complete, TF-300 became the Division main effort and began the final clearance of the DRV. A series of troop level air assaults cleared isolated villages along the Diyala River and funneled the remaining AQIZ forces into the Squadron's engagement area surrounding the towns of Qubbah and Mukhisa. The air assaults resulted in over 100 AQIZ killed and captured. During these shaping operations, SPC Jeremiah Church was awarded the Silver Star for continuing to engage the enemy, despite being severely wounded, and destroying a heavy machine gun position. Operation Pericles was the final, squadron (+) clearance of the DRV. The clearance began with an in-depth and overwhelming integration of indirect fire assets, Army Attack Aviation, Air Force Close Air Support, and heavy bombers in support of multiple air assaults surrounding Objective H-Minus – the towns of Qubbah and Mukhisa. TF-300 conducted a deliberate clearance of over 1000 buildings and 50 square kilometers of surrounding palm groves. TF-300 controlled the entire DRV and the AQIZ stronghold was destroyed.

During its 14 months in the Diyala province, 5-73 achieved a historic set of accomplishments: the destruction of two firmly entrenched Al Qaeda safe havens, the successful training of two battalions of Iraqi Army forces and the reconstitution of the Iraqi Department of

Border Enforcement along the Iran border. The tenacious fighting spirit of the Headhunters established TF-300 as the modern incarnation of Sparta in the 82nd Airborne Division. Of the less than 400 Paratroopers in 5-73, one third of them were wounded in combat and 23 were killed. 77 Paratroopers were recognized for valorous acts, including one Distinguished Service Cross and six Silver Stars. 5-73 was personally identified for a Presidential Unit Citation by the commander of coalition forces, GEN David Patraeus. The true strength of the Headhunters is in its individual Paratroopers: infantryman, cavalry scouts, medics, mechanics, cooks, and clerks. Every Paratrooper, regardless of specialty, personally engaged the enemy in combat and built a legacy that will be told for generations to come.

History of 3rd BSTB

The 3rd BSTB was formed as part of the Army's modular brigade transformation process. Their first Battalion CDR, LTC Stephenson, cased the colors of the 307th Engineers and unfurled the 3rd BSTB colors in January 2006. This was the first BSTB in the 82nd Airborne Division. The BSTB is made up of five companies, an HHC, an engineer company (A Co), a military intelligence company (B Co), a signal company (C Co) and the BCT HHC.

The 307th Engineer Battalion (Airborne) has a history of service to the nation that is equaled by few and bettered by no other engineer unit in the United States Army. An active participant in every major U.S. military action, except the Korean War, the 307th Engineer Battalion has consistently proven its ability to provide exceptional combat engineering and infantry support to the soldiers of the 82nd Airborne Division since WWI. The 307th Engineer Battalion also displayed its unique abilities by deploying inside the continental United States for Hurricane Relief efforts in Florida (Hurricane Andrew) and Louisiana (Hurricane Katrina).

The 3rd BSTB's first deployment occurred in August 2006 in support Operation Iraqi Freedom 06-08. The unit was based out of COB Speicher near the city of Tikrit, served the 3rd BCT throughout Salah ad Din Province conducting a wide variety of mission to include Human Intelligence Collection, UAV support, communications infrastructure and route clearance. The 3rd BSTB returned from OIF 06-08 in the fall 2007 after serving with distinction for 15 months.

REGIMENTAL KNOWLEDGE

1. The Honorary Colonel of the Regiment is LTG (R) James H. Johnson and the Honorary CSM of the Regiment is CSM (R) Ted Gaweda.
2. The 82d Airborne Division has had five Medal of Honor Recipients: (Funk, Pike, York, Towle, Deglopper).
3. The 509th PIB is tied with the 505th PIR for number of combat parachute jumps at five. The 509th is currently stationed at Ft. Polk/JRTC performing the duties of OPFOR.
4. The 505th PIR has or its subordinate elements have participated in five combat jumps:

<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>OPERATION</u>
Sicily	9 July 1943	"Husky"
Salerno	14 Sep 1943	"Avalanche"
Normandy	6 June 1944	"Overlord"
Holland	17 Sep 1944	"Market Garden"
Panama	20 Dec 1989	"Just Cause"

5. The 505th PIR or its subordinate elements have conducted combat operations in a total of seven conflicts:

<u>CONFLICT</u>	<u>ELEMENTS</u>
WWII	All
Dominican Republic	HHC, 1-505, 2-505
Vietnam	HHC, 1-505, 2-505
Grenada	HHC, 1-505, 2-505.
Panama	A/3-505, MTR/HHC/3-505
Persian Gulf	All
GWOT (OEF & OIF)	All

6. 1LT Richard M. Janney made the first two combat jumps of WWII before he was killed when his vehicle ran over a landmine north of Naples.
7. The first Prop Blast was held by the 501st PIR at Fort Benning in 1940.
8. The 505th PIR was initially activated on 6 July 1942. The unit was reactivated on 3 Oct 1986 (1-505, 2-505, 1-508 participated in the reactivation).
9. Two members of the original Parachute Test Platoon were original members of the 505th PIR.
10. The Regimental Crest:

The cloud - The sky, from which an airborne assault comes

The red winged arrowhead - Courage, and the first U.S. Army Regimental-sized parachute assault into Sicily

The wreathed bar - Courage and valor, and the fact that the 505th PIR crest was worn in combat

The winged panther - Strength, cunning, and superb physical condition of the troops of the Regiment and its airborne mission

The four blue stripes - the four combat jumps of WWII

The silver shield - The shining, unblemished record of the Regiment

"H-Minus" - The fact that the 505th PIR jumped prior to "H-Hour" for the invasion of Normandy

11. The 555th PIR (the Triple Nickel) was an all black battalion of paratroopers. They were the first army "smoke jumpers." In 1947, the unit was deactivated and its personnel were used to bring 3-505 PIR back to full strength.

12. Lt Waverly Wray was WWII's equivalent of SGT Alvin York.

13. The 504th PIR did not jump during the invasion of Normandy.

14. The Static Line was the name of the 505th PIR newspaper that was established at Ft. Benning, GA prior to the Regiment moving to Ft. Bragg.

15. The 507th and the 508th were attached to the 82d Airborne Division to jump into Normandy with the 505th PIR.

History facts good to know:

1. Famous paratroopers of the 505th PIR, to include (but not limited to) Regimental and Battalion commanders and the current Honorary Colonel and CSM of the Regiment.
2. The symbolism of each feature of the 505th PIR Regimental Crest.
3. The six conflicts the 505th PIR or its subordinate elements have participated in. Know the name of the conflict and the elements of the 505th PIR that took part.
4. The five combat jumps the 505th PIR or its subordinate elements have conducted. Know the place of the jump, the date, and the name of the operation it was part of.
5. The details of the two Presidential Unit Citations the 505th PIR has earned. Know the places the actions occurred and the elements of the 505th that were cited.
6. The relationship of these units to the 505th PIR:
 - a. 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment
 - b. 509th Parachute Infantry Battalion (now 1/509 PIR)
 - c. 555th Parachute Infantry Battalion
7. The history of the Prop Blast Ceremony.
8. Medal of Honor winners in the 82d Airborne Division.



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 3RD BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM, 505TH PARACHUTE INFANTRY REGIMENT
82D AIRBORNE DIVISION, A2530 TAYLOR STREET
FORT BRAGG, NC 28310-7213

THE ALL-AMERICAN SOLDIER SONG

CHORUS: We're All American and proud to be;
For we're the soldiers of Liberty
Some ride the gliders through the enemy
Others are sky paratroopers.
We're All American, and fight we will
Till all the guns of the foe are still
Airborne, from skies of blue
We're coming through - - - -
Make your Jumps, take your bumps
Let's go!

INTERLUDE: Put on your boots
Your parachute - - -
Get all those gliders ready
To attack today;
For we'll be gone
Into the dawn
To fight em' all
The 82d way - - - - yes!

505TH PIR COAT OF ARMS

THE LEAPING BLACK PANTHER IS SYMBOLIC OF THE STRENGTH, CUNNING AND SUPERB PHYSICAL CONDITION OF THE 505TH AND ITS TROOPERS. THAT IT IS WINGED, OF COURSE, INDICATES ITS AIRBORNE CAPABILITIES AND MISSION. THE SILVER BACKGROUND OF THE SHIELD REPRESENTS THE SHINING AND UNBLEMISHED RECORD OF THE 505TH THROUGHOUT ITS HISTORY. THE FOUR SLANTING BLUE BARS (blue for infantry) SIGNIFY THE FOUR MAJOR PARACHUTE JUMPS MADE BY THE 505TH DURING WORLD WAR II: SICILY, ITALY, NORMANDY, HOLLAND. THE CREST IS A RED WINGED ARROWHEAD (red for courage), WHICH SIGNIFIES THAT THE 505TH WAS THE FIRST UNIT OF THE U.S. ARMY TO MAKE A REGIMENTAL SIZED AIRBORNE ATTACK (SICILY). THE CLOUD, OF COURSE, DEPICTS THE SKY FROM WHICH THE ATTACK CAME. THE BLUE AND SILVER WREATHED BAR JUST BENEATH THE ARROWHEAD, INDICATES THAT THIS CREST WAS WON IN COMBAT, AND AWARDED TO THE 505TH BY THE NATION, FOR ITS VALOR AND RECORD IN COMBAT. ORIGINALLY, ONLY THE KING COULD MAKE SUCH A GRANT OF THIS FEATURE AND HE USED IT TO MARK COURAGE AND VALOR ONLY. THIS TRADITION HAS PERSISTED IN OUR HISTORY. THE "H-MINUS"

-- INSERTION BEFORE H-HOUR -- WAS PART OF THE ORIGINAL PHILOSOPHY OF THE AIRBORNE, AND IS RETAINED AS A SOUND AND EXEMPLARY MOTTO WHICH SUMS UP THE AIRBORNE ATTACK MISSION.



HOW THE PARACHUTE BADGE WAS DEVELOPED

(This letter is a reproduction of a letter that LTG Yarborough sent to the STATIC LINE newspaper in 1977 clarifying how the Parachute Badge was developed. It was LTG Yarborough who was responsible for the design and the development of the original wings, and these are the true facts as he has carefully enumerated them).

By LTG William Yarborough

“To begin with, the parachutist qualification badge was not developed in order to ‘identify the members of this unique organization,’ it was to signify qualification in the art of military parachuting. The device which identified the 501st Parachute Battalion was an Ojibway Thunderbird on a silver shield with the motto ‘GERONIMO.’ I designed that distinctive insignia. Its history is filled with the heraldry element of DSCPers in the Pentagon. I had hoped that every parachute unit of the American Army might have an American Indian thunderbird of different design as the basis for its distinctive insignia and toward that end, I had done considerable research which had brought to light dozens of colorful Thunderbird designs—all appropriate, I thought, to American Heraldry and traditions.

As to the parachute wings, it is incorrect to state that ‘The Chief of Infantry suggested a design on a light blue background similar in appearance to the badge of the Air Corps pilots.’ The one most firm requirement placed by the Army on any design of a parachute qualification badge was that IN NO WAY resemble the pilots wings of the Air Corps.

The Parachute Qualification Badge as we know it came into being as a result of LTC WILLIAM M. MILEY’S initiative. As Commander of the 501st Parachute Battalion, he ordered me to Washington in early 1941, telling me not to come back to Ft. Benning until I had an approved qualification badge in my hands. He had (quite properly) rejected several badge concepts supplied by the Heraldry Branch of G-1. They were both unimaginative, and in our view, even ‘recessive.’ One consisted of a deployed parachute around which wings were folded in almost funeral attitude.

Arriving at the War Department, I set to work to produce a design which fitted the parameters supplied by the bureaucrats.

After at least 50 tries, I came up with the design we now have. It seemed to me that the suggestion that the wing tips were supporting the chute canopy was symbolic of the powered flight which always preceded the paratroop. Furthermore, the prohibition against extended wings of any kind (imposed by the Heraldry Branch) had to be accepted.

I walked the approved design in and out of every office which had a piece of the action in the War Department. I would wait doggedly until each action type got to it in his ‘In’ basket, then take it to the next one.

When a contract was finally let with Bailey Banks and Biddle of Philadelphia, I camped on their doorstep until I was able to walk away with 350 Sterling Wings. These I carried triumphantly back to COL Miley at Benning. All of these wings bear BB&B on the back, and they are collector's items.

Feeling that the wings needed a little color and that perhaps they were on the small side, I designed the first felt backgrounds. For the 501st, the background was Infantry Blue with Artillery Red superimposed so as to leave a narrow blue border.

I took the patent out on these wings in order to protect the design from wrongful exploitation, and to keep the quality high. I never obtained a single penny from sale of the wings, nor from any commercial use – this was not my objective.”

LTG WILLIAM P. YARBOROUGH
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